

LOLO TRAIL

Beginning near Lolo, Montana, to Weippe Prairie, Idaho, Lolo vicinity

The 200-mile-long Lolo Trail is significant for two reasons, both based on its being a traditional Indian route through the Bitterroot Mountains. First, in September 1805, Toby, a Shoshoni guide, led the Lewis and Clark party through the passage. This would prove to be the single most arduous stretch of their entire journey, but was key to the expedition's reaching the Pacific side of the continent. Seven decades later hundreds of Nez Perce Indians used the trail when fleeing the U.S. Army during the Nez Perce War of 1877. (Also in Missoula County, Montana.)